

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Examiner's action dated April 10, 2001, having a shortened statutory period set to expire July 10, 2001.

In that action the Examiner has rejected Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not adequately described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the art that the inventors, at the time the Application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Specifically, the Examiner objects to the terminology "executing said predefined process . . . solely in response to a graphic selection . . ." and "until said association is disabled by a second user input" which the Examiner believes are not adequately described in the specification at the time the Application was filed. Based upon a careful consideration of the Examiner's comments, Applicant has amended the preamble of each independent claim to recite the presence of a "pointing device having at least one button" in association with a movable cursor and has further amended the claims to recite that the predefined process is executed on any suitable object "solely in response to each subsequent graphic selection of a suitable object and depression of said at least one button . . ." while Applicant urges that "graphic selection" in this art typically means the placing of a cursor over an iconological object and the depression of a button on a mouse. Applicant has amended the claims to expressly recite both of the aspects of graphic selection and it is urged that the specification, as originally filed, clearly teaches the execution of the predefined process, once that process has been associated with the cursor, on "each subsequent graphic selection of a suitable object and depression of said at least one button" by a user utilizing the movable cursor in the manner now set forth within the claims. The Examiner's objection to this terminology and his concomitant rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 1.112, first paragraph is therefore believed to be overcome.

Specifically, with respect to the Examiner's objection to the language "until said association is disabled by a second user input" the Examiner's attention is invited to Page 15, lines 1-6, wherein the movable mouse cursor is described as remaining enabled "within the cursor applied processing

mode after selection of that mode as noted in **Figure 7** until the user elects to disable that mode." Thus, it is beyond cavil that further selection of graphic objects within the data processing system will continue to execute the predefined process associated with the cursor "until said association is disabled by a user" and the minor amendments made to this claim to conform the language within the claim to the specification are believed to overcome the Examiner's rejection of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 1.112, first paragraph.

The Examiner has also rejected Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,416,901, issued to *Torres*. That rejection is respectfully traversed.

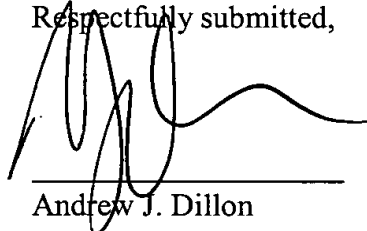
The method and system of the present invention is directed to a technique for associating a particular predefined process with a movable cursor and thereafter executing that predefined process on any suitable object which is graphically selected utilizing that movable cursor by overlying the movable cursor above the suitable object and depressing or "clicking" the button associated with the pointing device. In contrast, *Torres* describes a technique whereby a process is created and associated with a selection icon, such as selection icon 56 within **Figure 2C**. Thereafter, in order to apply the process described by selection icon 56 to an item or object within the computer display, it is necessary to select selection icon 56 and "drag" that selection icon to a new object and "drop" the selection object on that icon, initiating the associated process.

In order to execute that selected process on a subsequent object, in accordance with the teachings of *Torres*, it is necessary to once again graphically select selection icon 56 and "drag and drop" that selection icon on a new object within the computer display. As the attorney who prepared and prosecuted *Torres*, the undersigned attorney can state with a high degree of certainty that the predefined process associated with selection icon 56 is not executed on "any suitable object within said data processing system solely in response to each subsequent graphic selection of a suitable object and depression of said at least one button by a user utilizing said movable cursor . . ." as expressly set forth within the claims of the present Application. Further, with respect to the disabling of that association, whether such disablement is "obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the

time the invention was made . . ." does not relieve the Examiner of the deficiency within *Torres*, in that *Torres* fails to show or suggest in any way the executing of a predefined process on any suitable object which is selected utilizing the cursor once a predefined process has been associated with the cursor as set forth within the claims of the present Application. Consequently, Applicant respectfully urges that Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-12 define patentable subject matter over this cited reference and passage of this Application to issue is therefore respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be required; however, in the event any additional fees are required, please charge IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. **09-0461**. No extension of time is believed to be required; however, in the event any extension is required, please consider that extension requested and please charge any associated fee and any additional required fees to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. **09-0461**.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew J. Dillon', is written over a horizontal line.

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REDACTED CLAIMS

1 --1.(Thrice Amended) A graphic method for the efficient execution of a predefined process within
2 a data processing system having a keyboard, a plurality of objects and a pointing device having at
3 least one button and an associated movable cursor displayed [therein]within said data processing
4 system, said method comprising the steps of:

5 specifying a predefined process within said data processing system said predefined process
6 comprising a plurality of keystrokes, said plurality of keystrokes specifying a user defined executable
7 process which may be applied to one or more objects within said data processing system;

8 associating said predefined process with said movable cursor within said data processing
9 system in response to a first user input; and

10 executing said predefined process on any suitable object within said data processing system
11 in response to [a]each subsequent graphic selection of a suitable object and depression of said at least
12 one button by a user utilizing said movable cursor until said association is disabled by a [second]
13 user [input].--

2. Previously Canceled.

1 3.(Unchanged) The graphic method for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system according to Claim 1, further including the step of determining if said predefined
3 process may be executed on said particular object in response to a graphic selection of said particular
4 object by a user utilizing said movable cursor.

1 4.(Unchanged) The graphic method for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system according to Claim 3, further including the step of generating an error message
3 in response to a determination that said predefined process may not be executed on said particular
4 object.

1 5.(Unchanged) The graphic method for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system according to Claim 1, wherein said step of specifying a predefined process within
3 said data processing system comprises the step of specifying a user defined executable process which
4 may be applied to one or more objects within said data processing system.

1 6.(Unchanged) The graphic method for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system according to Claim 1, wherein said data processing system includes a graphical
3 pointing device and wherein said step of executing said predefined process on a particular object
4 within said data processing system in response to a graphic selection of said particular object by a
5 user utilizing said movable cursor comprises the step of executing said predefined process on a
6 particular object within said data processing system in response to a graphic selection of said
7 particular object by a user utilizing said graphical pointing device to relocate said movable cursor.

1 --7.(Thrice Amended) A system for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system having a keyboard, a plurality of objects and a pointing device having at least one
3 button and an associated movable cursor displayed [therein]within said data processing system, said
4 system comprising:

5 means for specifying a predefined process within said data processing system said predefined
6 process comprising a plurality of keystrokes, said plurality of keystrokes specifying a user defined
7 executable process which may be applied to one or more objects within said data processing system;

8 means for associating said predefined process with said movable cursor within said data
9 processing system in response to a first user input; and

10 means for executing said predefined process on a particular object within said data processing
11 system in response to [a]each subsequent graphic selection of a suitable object and depression of said
12 at least one button by a user utilizing said movable cursor until said association is disabled by a

13 [second] user [input].--

8. Previously Canceled.

1 9.(Unchanged) The system for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system according to Claim 7, further including means for determining if said predefined
3 process may be executed on said particular object in response to a graphic selection of said particular
4 object by a user utilizing said movable cursor.

1 10.(Unchanged) The system for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system according to Claim 9, further including means for generating an error message
3 in response to a determination that said predefined process may not be executed on said particular
4 object.

1 11.(Unchanged) The system for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system according to Claim 7, wherein said means for specifying a predefined process
3 within said data processing system comprises means for specifying a user defined executable process
4 which may be applied to one or more objects within said data processing system.

1 12.(Unchanged) The system for the efficient execution of a predefined process within a data
2 processing system according to Claim 7, wherein said data processing system includes a graphical
3 pointing device for relocating said movable cursor.